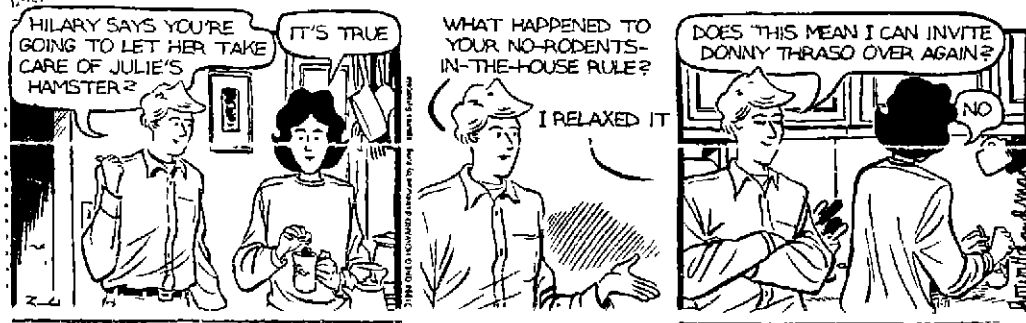


BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



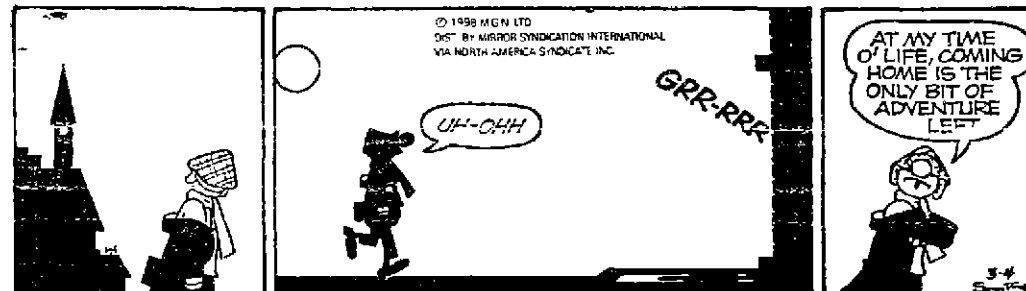
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



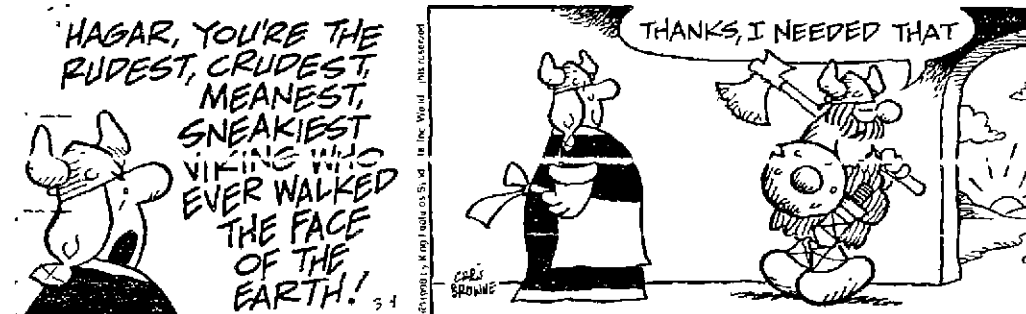
ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



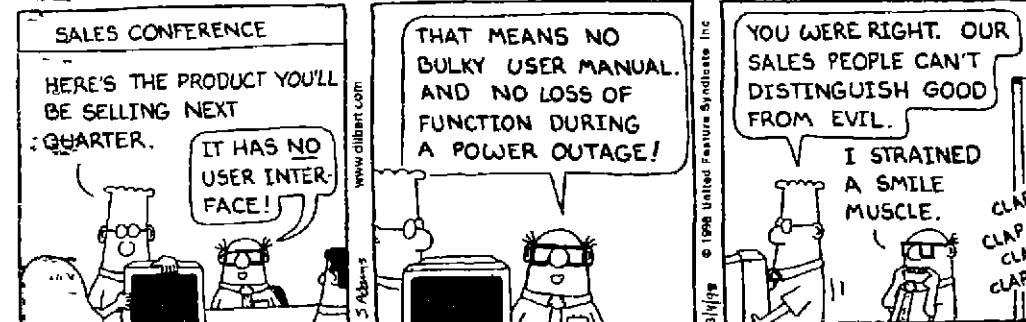
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



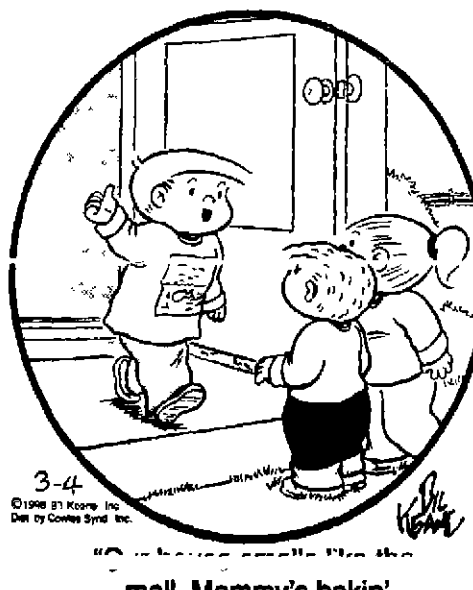
DILBERT



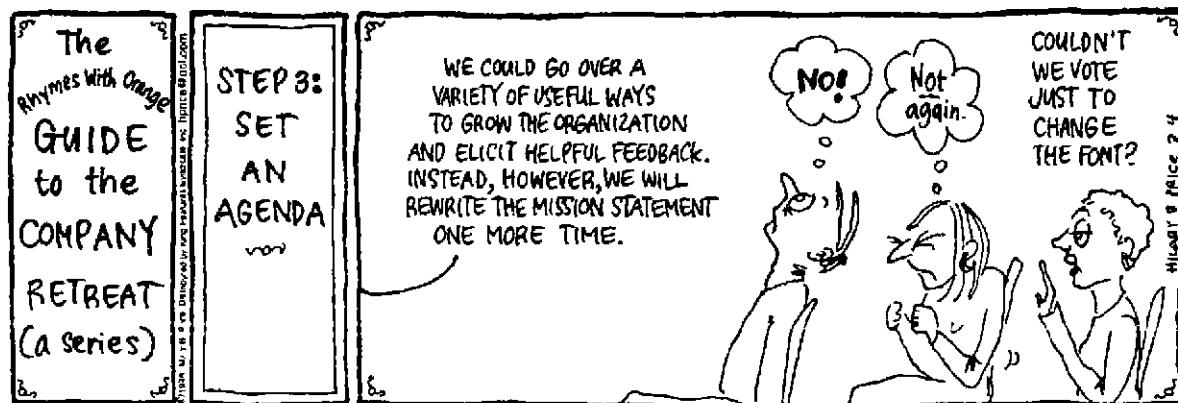
DENNIS THE MENACE



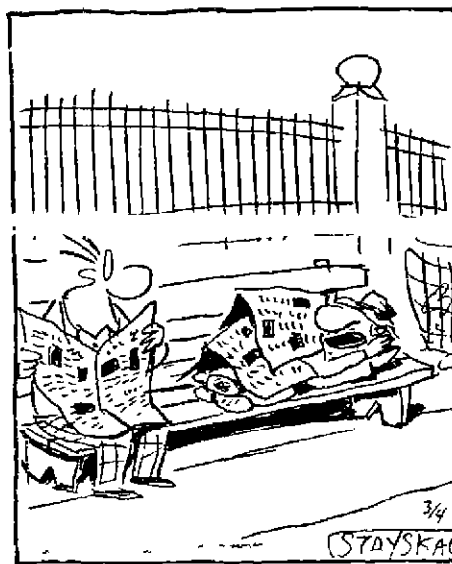
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



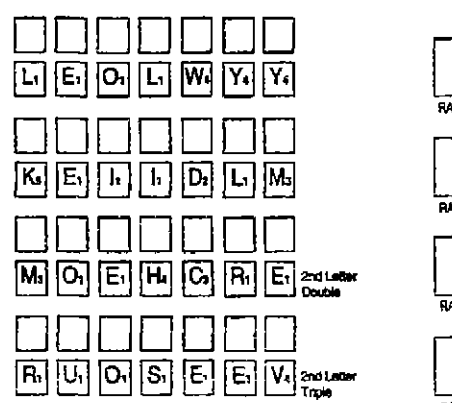
Today's Birthdays

Folk singer Miriam Makeba is 66. Actress Paula Prentiss is 59. Singer Bobby Womack is 54. Rock musician Chris Squire (Yes) is 53. Kin Stevens is 50. Actress Kay Lenz is 45. Musician Emilio Estévez is 45. Rock musician Jason Newsted (Metallica) is 35. Rock singer Evan Dando (Lemonheads) is 31. Actress Patsy Kensit is 30. Chastity Bono is 29. Rock musician Fergal Lawler (The Cranberries) is 27.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE



For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

Alcoholic beverages

Q F B Y U R O K H D A X U Q N

K H E B Y V T S P M J H E B Y

V T Q R O L E I G D B Y W T R

P M R U E U O I L E K I F T D

B Y W M U D U S O O K C L M K

I F D B Z X I W H U E A S Q O

N L J H F D L C C C M N S A Y

W V T S B R A N D Y T G I N Q

P N L K I E N O B R U O B W H

F E C B L E V O D K A C C Z Y

W V U A S B Y E K S I H W S R

Tuesday's unlisted clue: SPIDER

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Wednesday's unlisted clue hint: RUSSIAN FAVORITE

Ale	Cognac	Malt	Tequila
Beer	Gin	Rum	Whiskey
Bourbon	Hard cider	Sake	Wine
Brandy	Liqueur	Scotch	

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For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Thursday, March 5, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're raring to go but could easily ruffle someone's feathers. Avoid bossiness and coming on too strong.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You could be organizing a party, and you are likely to get involved in a dispute with a friend.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) What seems like a lucky break could bring you success and recognition in business. You can make things happen for yourself in your career.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Others gladly cooperate with you, assuming you're not too demanding! It should be a positive day regarding career investments.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) There's a favorable accent on both work and play. You take the lead in planning good times. New opportunities await you on the job.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) You could do an old friend a favor related to a work matter. Happiness comes through family interests and home-based activities.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) It takes some effort on your part, but you do meet a partner halfway. Try to be more businesslike.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A close tie could seem set in his or her ways. Be selective about invitations you accept.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) There's no sense arguing with a person whose mind is already made up. A relative is not ready to compromise.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) You can't call the shots all the time. Try to be cooperative with others and listen to their ideas.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) A friend is inscrutably manipulative and perhaps better left to his or her own devices.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) A conversation appears to be headed nowhere.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

South took full blame for going wrong in today's diamond suit, but not without reason. "I couldn't afford to lose a finesse to East," he explained. "I was afraid of a heart shift from East." Did South take the blame for the right crime?

West's club king went to dummy's ace, and East signaled with his jack to promise the 10. South drew trumps ending in dummy and took a first-round diamond finesse. This lost to West's queen, and thanks to East's alert signal at trick one, West underled his club queen to East's nine. East shifted to a heart to give West two more winners, and the game fell one short. Was South wrong to finesse against East? No, he fished in the better direction, but his timing was all wrong. To make the game, not only must South keep East off lead in diamonds, he must deny him an entry in clubs as well. He does this by allowing West to hold his club king at trick one. After West continues the suit (no shift is better), dummy wins, and South draws trumps. Now it's safe for South to lead a low diamond to his 10. West wins as before, but he can do no harm. Regardless of what West might lead, South has a heart discard, if he needs it, on dummy's high diamond, limiting the defense to only three tricks. Some find it more comforting to take the blame for a wayward 50 percent guess than for an ill-conceived plan.

NORTH		SOUTH	
♠ A K 8 3	♠ Q J 10 9 7	♥ K 2	♥ A 10 6
♦ J 6 3	♦ Q 9 2	♦ 8 4 3	♦ 8 4 2
♣ K J 7 5	♣ A 3		

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: North

The bidding

North	East	South	West
1 NT	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Club king

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0121

ACROSS

- Wacky
- Take home, after taxes
- Summit
- Lay down the law
- Repeated parrot's word
- Gunks
- Vitamin supplement
- Once more
- Puddinglike serving
- Arts supporter
- Prefix with -mester
- Doctrine
- Brink
- Leader involved in 70's shuttle diplomacy
- Park
- Cordon bleu's phrase
- Bomb at a comedy club
- FEC concern
- Repute
- Al Jolson classic
- Typist's purchase
- "Am — blame?"
- Dig it!
- New Deal fig
- Wranglers, e.g.
- Yanks' allies in W.W. II
- Tough-talking coach
- "From — to Mozart" (1980 film)
- "Vamoosel!"
- Parsian hot spot
- "If I — hammer"
- Didn't just pronounce
- Pottery
- 11-Down, e.g., to Henri
- Colorings
- Oklahoma city
- Attention-getters
- Contest submission
- Lip

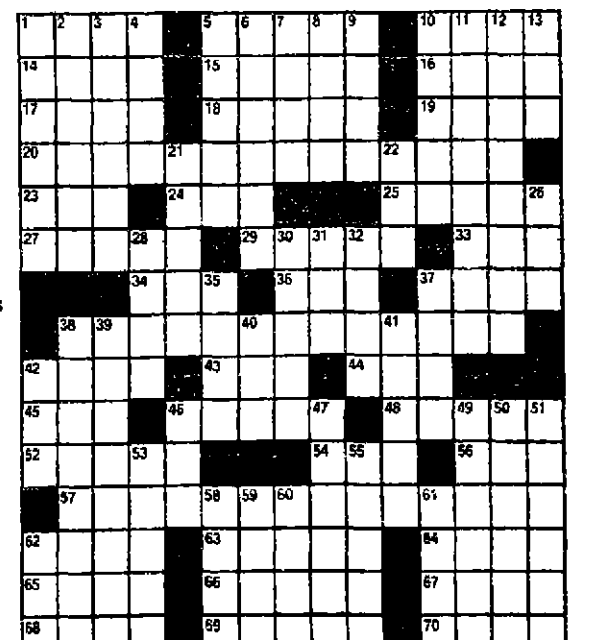
DOWN

- Results of blizzards
- Light show
- Highly embellished
- Guard
- Jumble
- Fiber source
- "Put — on it!"
- Gossipy Barrett
- Texas college athlete
- Middle of the Rockies
- Benny Goodman #1 hit
- Politeness
- Conform
- Ring spot
- Not known from

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ELSA AJAR RILED
DALI SANE EVOKE
ITER INKS LEVEE
THELMALLOUISE
SEPIA DERMA SDS
FREE TAN TEA
TAFT LAP THONG
OBORO KNEAD ORSO
RHODA ADD RYES
SOD PIG AMMO
ORC ALARM ASSET

LOATH EUEA OILS
UNITE WAVY PEEB
GENUS AXES EDNA



Puzzle by Elizabeth C. Gorski

30 Secretly watch	47 Chestnut Cat, notably	58 Not settled
31 Prof's helpers	48 Galapagos creature	59 Bone Prefix
32 Reiterate	50 Nineveh's locale	59 — reflection
33 60's cigar pitchwoman Adams	51 Mounts	60 Solemn time
37 European boundary river	53 "Ode to Psyche" poet	61 Has a mortgage
38 Do Zen		62 Beavis and Butt-head sound
39 April celebration		
40 1959 Kingston		
41 Pergola		
42 Letter letters		
46 Gridlock		

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone.

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